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2 **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

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4 1. (Currently Amended) A method for testing at least one software
5 application, the method comprising:

6 injecting a dynamic link library (DLL) into an executable code of the
7 software application being tested;

8 installing at least one hook function into an application programming
9 interface (API) of an operating system, the installing performed by the DLL, the
10 at least one hook function configured to monitor ~~for testing~~ operating system
11 messages communicated with the software application during execution of the
12 software application being tested;

13 retrieving information descriptive of a state of operation of the software
14 application being tested and at least one graphics element rendered during
15 execution of the software application being tested, wherein the information
16 identifies an executable feature associated with the at least one graphics element,
17 and wherein at least some of the retrieved information descriptive of the state of
18 operation is based on messages monitored by way of the at least one hook
19 function;

20 storing information related to an association between the executable
21 feature and the at least one graphics element and the state of operation of the
22 software application in a map data structure containing information related to at
23 least one graphics element for testing, the association and information being
24 stored in the map data structure during execution of the software application
25 being tested;

1 automatically selecting an executable feature from the map data structure
2 based on the association stored in the map data structure;

3 automatically executing the selected executable feature associated with the
4 graphics element; and

5 dynamically updating the information related to the state of operation of the
6 software application and the association in the map data structure upon execution
7 of the executable feature.

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